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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
JEAN-CLAUDE PAILLES, ET AL. : EXAMINER: WORJLOH, J.
SERIAL NO: 09/926,360 :
FILED: DECEMBER 11, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3621
FOR: PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR :
SOFTWARE PROGRAM USE

PROVISIONAL ELECTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated May 1, 2007, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-13 for further examination on the merits in the present application.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement because the PTO has not carried forward its burden of proof to establish that searching and examining the noted sets of claims would be an undue burden.

In particular, MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.¹

¹ To do justice to identified groups of claims, it is respectfully submitted that it would be necessary to search in all classes and subclasses identified in item 1 at page 2 of the outstanding Official Action.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

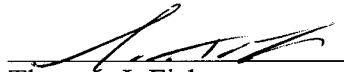
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